

Message Text

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EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT ABU DHABI 0579 TO SECSTATE INFO SANA JIDDA AMMAN

KUWAIT DOHA MUSCA BAGHDAD FEB 26, 1977

QTE S E C R E T ABU DHABI 0579

EXDIS

DEPT PASS BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, YE, YS, US

SUBJ: VISIT OF JOINT YAR/PDRY DELEGATION TO UAE: POSSIBLE PDRY

APPROACH TO RESUME RELATIONS WITH US

REF: SANA 626

1. ON FEBRUARY 24, AHMAD ABDO SAID, YAR MINISTER OF STATE FOR SERVICES, ACCCOMPANIED BY YAR AMBASSADOR QUBATI, CALLED ON ME TO DESCRIBE PROGRESS THUS FAR OF YAR/PDRY APPROACH TO AREA OIL PRODUCERS FOR HELP TO OFFSET HIGHER OIL PRICES. HE HAD JUST

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COME FROM A MEETING WITH UAE PRESIDENT SHAIKH ZAYID WHO HAD PROMISED TO ASSIST BOTH COUNTRIES AND HAD COMMENDED EFFORTS BY BOTH THE NORTH AND SOUTH TO REUNITE. ABDO SAID STATED YAR/PDRY WERE SEEKING AN ANNUAL SUBSIDY OF \$24 MILLION FROM QATAR, UAE, KUWAIT, AND IRAQ TO HELP DEFRAY THE RISING COST OF PETROLEUM IMPORTS. HE DID NOT ELABORATE ON HOW HIS SUBSIDY WOULD BE DEVIDED BETWEEN THE YAR AND

PDRY OR HOW CONTRIBUTIONS WOULD BE MADE BY EACH OIL PRODUCER, BUT BASED ON POSITIVE REACTIONS THUS FAR, HE WAS OPTIMISTIC REQUEST WOULD BE MET SINCE COUNTRIES BEING VISITED WERE ATTRACTED BY THIS JOINT APPROACH.

2. DURING THE CALL, ABDO SAID TOOK ME ASIDE TO SAY THAT HIS COLLEAGUE, PDRY MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND PLANNING, ABD AL-AZIZ AL-WALI, HAD MENTIONED THAT PDRY WAS NOW SERIOUSLY INTERESTED IN RE-ESTABLISHING CONTACT WITH USG. ABD AL-WALI HAD ASKED ABDO SAID FOR ADVICE ON HOW TO GO ABOUT THIS. ABDO SAID KNEW OF MEETINGS IN 1974 AND 1975 WITH PDRY OFFICIALS DURING UNGA BUT UNDERSTOOD THERE HAD BEEN NO FURTHER CONTACT. I TOLD HIM I WAS OUT OF THIS NOW AND UNAWARE OF ANY RECENT DEVELOPMENTS. HOWEVER, WE HAD MADE IT VERY CLEAR IN THE PAST THAT IF PDRY GOVERNMENT WAS INTERESTED IN CONTACTING DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS, ITS PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE AT UNITED NATIONS, AMBASSADOR ASHTAL, HAD TELEPHONE NUMBER OF NEA/ARP AND ALL HE HAD TO DO WAS PICK UP THE PHONE. ABDO SAID THOUGHT THAT ABD AL-WALI WOULD SHORTLY BE IN WASHINGTON, D.C. TO TALK TO THE IBRD AND HE MIGHT SEEK TO CONTACT DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS WHEN IN WASHINGTON. ABDO SAID WOULD CONTACT AMBASSADOR SCOTES AS SOON AS HE RETURNS TO SANA TO REPORT ON ANY FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS.

DICKMAN UNQTE VANCE

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